

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

_____,)
_____,)
_____,)
Plaintiff,)
_____,)
v.) Civil Action No. ___-___-LTS
_____,)
_____,)
_____,)
Defendants.)
_____)

SCHEDULING ORDER

_____, 20__

SOROKIN, D.J.

This Scheduling Order is intended to provide a reasonable timetable for discovery and motion practice in order to help ensure a fair and just resolution of this matter without undue expense or delay.

Timetable for Discovery and Motion Practice

Pursuant to Rule 16(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Local Rule 16.1(f), it is hereby ORDERED that:

- 1. Initial Disclosures.** Initial disclosures required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1) and by this Court's Notice of Scheduling Conference must be completed by _____.
- 2. Amendments to Pleadings.** Except for good cause shown, no motions seeking leave to add new parties or to amend the pleadings to assert new claims or defenses may be filed after _____.
- 3. Fact Discovery – Interim Deadlines.**
 - a.** All requests for production of documents and interrogatories must be served by _____.
 - b.** All requests for admission must be served by _____.
 - c.** All depositions, other than expert depositions, must be completed by _____.

- d. **Final Fact Discovery Deadline.** All discovery, other than expert discovery, must be completed by _____.
- 4. **Status Conference.** A status conference will be held on _____.
- 5. **Expert Discovery.**
 - a. Trial experts for the party with the burden of proof must be designated, and the information contemplated by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2) must be disclosed, by _____.
 - b. Rebuttal trial experts must be designated, and the information contemplated by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2) must be disclosed, by _____.
 - c. All trial experts must be deposed by _____.
- 6. **Dispositive Motions.**
 - a. Dispositive motions, such as motions for summary judgment or partial summary judgment and motions for judgment on the pleadings, must be filed by _____ with the opposition due thirty days thereafter. In the case of cross-motions the deadlines and page limits for the filings other than the Plaintiff's initial motion are set forth in the Session's Standing Order on Summary Judgment Motions unless specifically modified.
- 7. **Initial Pretrial Conference.** An initial pretrial conference will be held on _____ at ____ a.m./p.m. The parties shall prepare and submit a pretrial memorandum in accordance with Local Rule 16.5(d) five business days prior to the date of the conference.

Procedural Provisions

- 1. **Extension of Deadlines.** Motions to extend or modify deadlines will be granted only for good cause shown. All motions to extend shall contain a brief statement of the reasons for the request; a summary of the discovery, if any, that remains to be taken; and a specific date when the requesting party expects to complete additional discovery, join other parties, amend the pleadings, or file a motion.
- 2. **Motions to Compel or Prevent Discovery.** Except for good cause shown, motions to compel discovery, motions for protective orders, motions to quash, motions to strike discovery responses, and similar motions must be filed **no later than seven days after the close of fact discovery or the close of expert discovery**, whichever deadline is relevant. If additional discovery is compelled by the Court after the relevant deadline has passed, the Court may enter such additional orders relating to discovery as may be appropriate.
- 3. **Status Conferences.** The Court has scheduled a status conference after (or close to) the close of fact discovery for case management purposes. Any party who reasonably

believes that a status conference will assist in the management or resolution of the case may request one from the Court upon reasonable notice to opposing counsel.

4. **Additional Conferences.** Upon request of counsel, or at the Court's own initiative, additional case-management or status conferences may be scheduled.
5. **Early Resolution of Issues.** The Court recognizes that, in some cases, resolution of one or more preliminary issues may remove a significant impediment to settlement or otherwise expedite resolution of the case. Counsel are encouraged to identify any such issues and to make appropriate motions at an early stage in the litigation.
6. **Pretrial Conference.** Lead trial counsel are required to attend any pretrial conference.

Leo T. Sorokin
United States District Judge

By: _____
Deputy Clerk